



COVID-19 Update

Presentation to the
Durham Nuclear Health
Committee

Health Department

November 20, 2020

Restrict - Orange Zone



Health Department Response to COVID-19



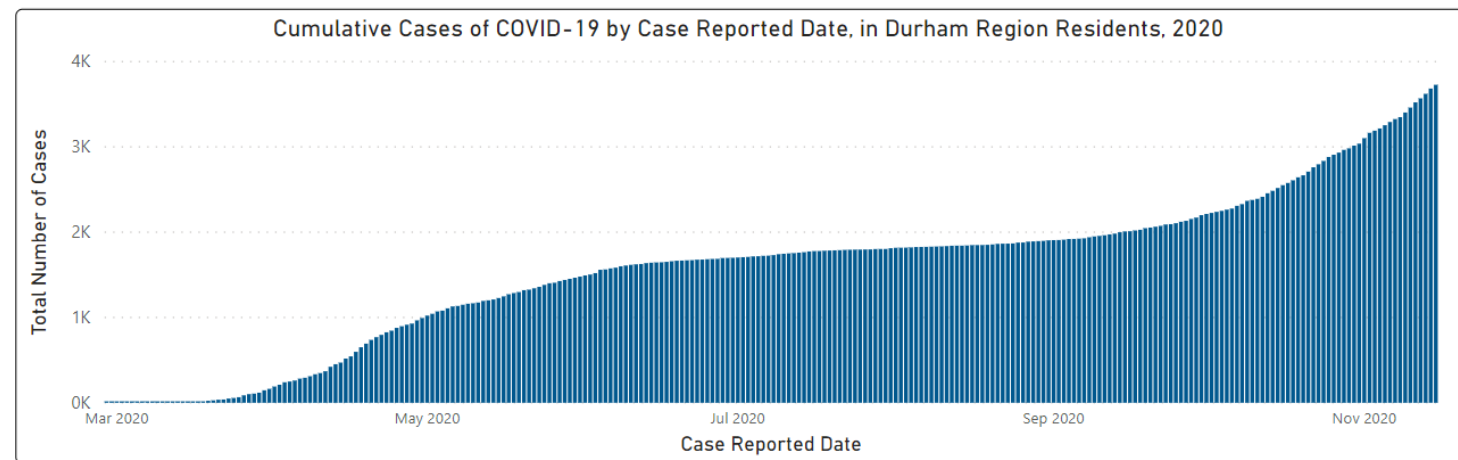
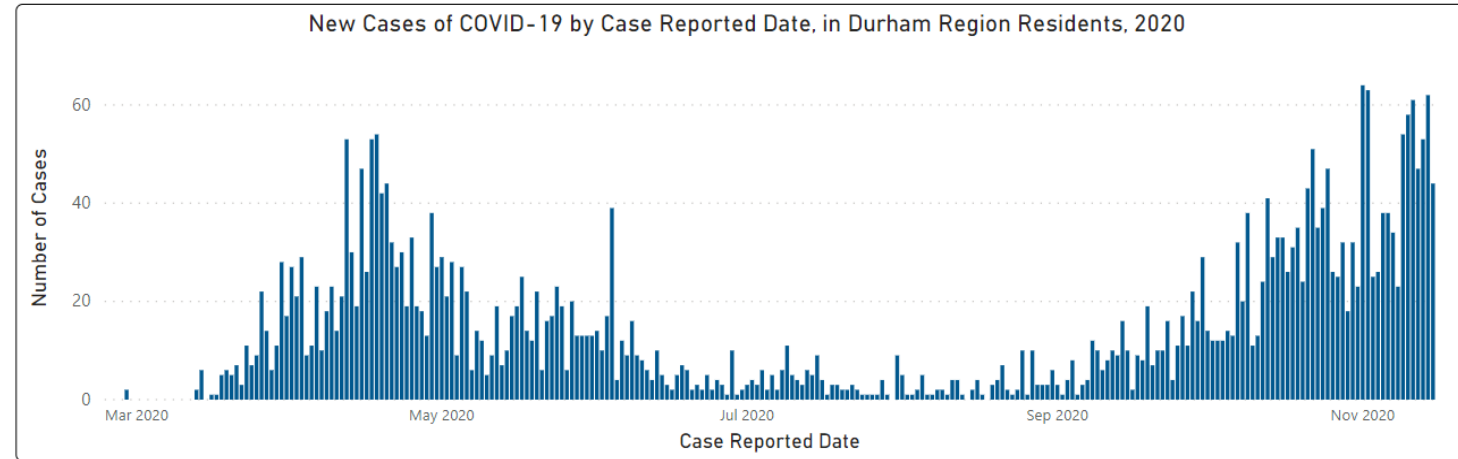
Health Response to COVID-19

durham.ca/novelcoronavirus

	Durham (As of Nov 16)
Total # of cases	3,728
Total # deaths	183 (5% total cases)
Deaths in LTCHs and RHs	153 (84% total deaths)
Total # ongoing outbreaks (LTCH, RH)*	5
Total # ongoing outbreaks (schools, CCCs)**	4

*In long-term care homes (LTCHs), retirement homes (RHs) and hospitals

**In schools and child care centres



#PublicHealthProtects

Durham Region Health Department's COVID-19 response to reduce the spread of illness and protect the health and safety of area residents is a team effort.
As of October 29, response activities include:



1,999 investigations /
inquiries regarding priority
population settings



34,899 nursing assessments
to determine if further medical
intervention is required



9,889 testing kits
prepared by administrative
support staff



46 outbreaks managed by public
health inspectors in long-term
care homes, retirement homes
and hospitals



118,486 COVID-19 phone interactions with residents and community partners



1,024,246 clicks on the link to the Durham Region COVID-19 Data Tracker from durham.ca/novelcoronavirus



9,359 COVID-19 cases & contacts indentified by public health nurses



100,233 test results received and distributed for follow-up



8,470 nasal swabs obtained by paramedic services from area residents, school staff and students, clients and staff in childcare centres, long-term care and retirement homes, shelters and other congregate settings



46,760 calls to cases and contacts

127 investigations by public health inspectors for confirmed positive cases not contacting Durham Health Connection Line for follow-up

67 investigations conducted by public health inspectors for people failing to self-isolate under the Section 22 Class Order

7,772 investigations initiated in facilities and **15,262** follow-ups with facilities completed by public health inspectors

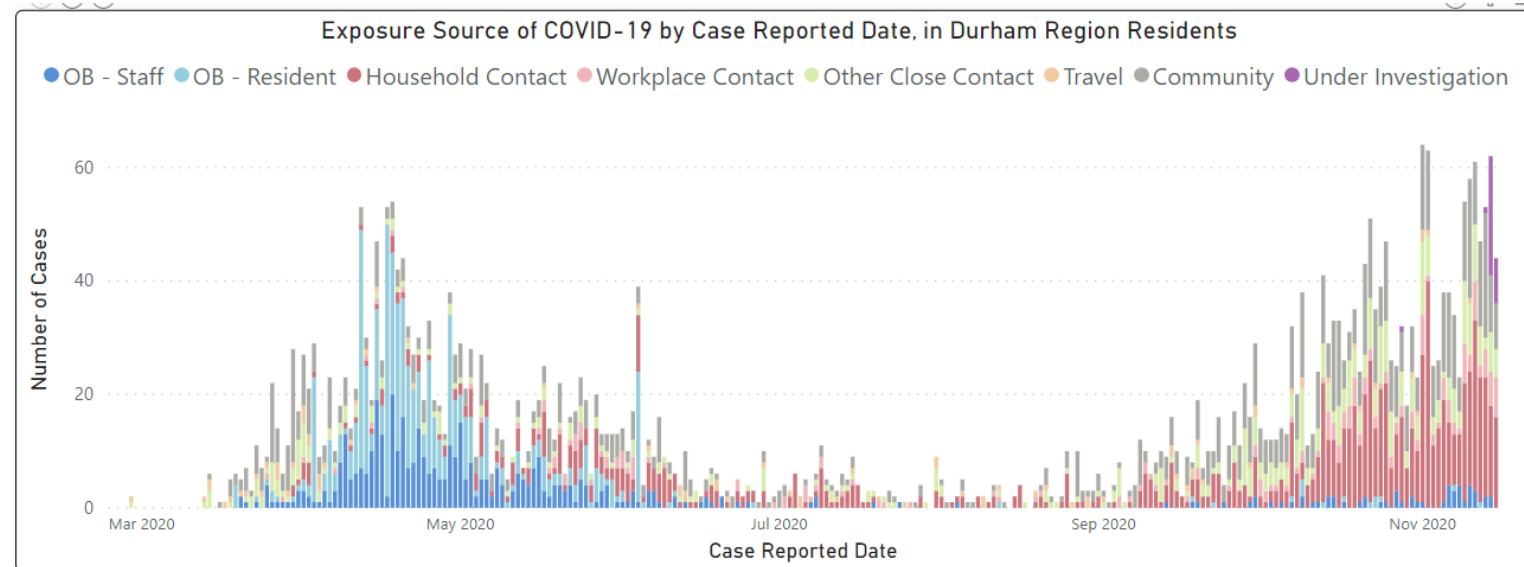


Health Response to COVID-19

- The first wave of COVID-19 had three noticeable phases: growth, flattening and recovery. The second wave of COVID-19 began in late September and Durham is currently in a growth phase
- The most likely exposure source for local cases has changed over time. During the first wave, the most likely exposure sources were linked to institutional outbreaks
- Now the predominant exposure source are Household contacts followed by Community exposure
- Other exposure sources include close contact, workplace contact, and travel

Enhancements to the Data Tracker

- School and child care centre outbreaks added
- Date range filter to exposure source tab and tools
- Percentage of confirmed cases by age group per week
- For time trends, filters added for case status, age group, and municipality
- Flu Tracker live (durham.ca/flucases)



Case & Contact Management

- Case and contact management continue to be a main focus of COVID-19 response activities
- Case management involves, but is not limited to: investigation of disease exposure; daily monitoring and counselling; contact assessment; and data entry and reporting
- Contact management activities include: making initial contact with contacts identified; assessing exposure risks; providing instructions and recommendations based on risks; and daily monitoring as appropriate.
- Ministry of Health (MOH) goal - 90% of newly identified cases to be contacted by their public health unit within 24 hours from when the public health unit was notified of the case
- The Health Department consistently achieves over 95% of newly identified cases contacted within 24 hours

Durham Region



- November 3, 2020, the Province released the COVID-19 Response Framework
- Durham Region was placed in the Yellow (Protect) zone starting November 7, 2020
- November 13, 2020 the Framework was updated with more stringent measures and Durham Region was moved to Orange (Restrict) zone
- Goal for all to be Green (Prevent) zone
- Can scale public health measures up or down based on local trends
- Restrictions are both general and sector-specific for each colour zone

COVID-19 Response Framework

A Comprehensive, Whole-of-Government Response to Keeping Ontario Safe and Open

Actions and sustained efforts to limiting transmission and moving regions out of modified Stage 2...






Case and Contact Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Almost 4,000 case management and contact tracing staff province-wide undertake outreach to support isolation and testing to prevent further spread • Established target = 90% of cases and contacts followed up within 24 hours
Testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity to process over 50,000 tests/day; building to capacity of 100,000 tests/day by December 2020. • Established target of 60% of tests turned around within 1 day, and 80% within 2 days • Established benchmark of maintaining test positivity under 3%
Public Health Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Framework to progressively adjust public health measures to respond to the pandemic
Education, Compliance & Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proactive education and outreach to businesses and organizations • Compliance checks, inspection, paired with education; monitoring, and Provincial Offences Act (POA) Part I or related tools to improve outcomes (e.g., warnings and fines) • Multi-ministry COVID-19 safety blitzes coordinated with local by-law and police services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Includes fines and prosecution for blatant and/or repeated non-compliance; results shared with local officials and media, POA Part III or related tools (e.g., appear before court, potential for significant fine and/or jail time)
Targeted Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional supports provided for vulnerable populations, communities, and impacted businesses
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complementary communications plan supporting broad public education and awareness

COVID-19 Response Framework

Framework: Adjusting and Tightening Public Health Measures

Act earlier by implementing measures to protect public health and prevent closures

Gradually loosen measures as trends in public health indicators improve

	 PREVENT (Standard Measures)	 PROTECT (Strengthened Measures)	 RESTRICT (Intermediate Measures)	 CONTROL (Stringent Measures)	 LOCKDOWN (Maximum Measures)
Objective	Focus on education and awareness of public health and workplace safety measures in place.	Enhanced targeted enforcement, fines, and enhanced education to limit further transmission.	Implement enhanced measures, restrictions, and enforcement avoiding any closures.	Implement broader-scale measures and restrictions, across multiple sectors, to control transmission.	Implement widescale measures and restrictions, including closures, to halt or interrupt transmission (Return to modified Stage 1 or pre-Stage 1).
Tactics	<p>Restrictions reflect broadest allowance of activities in Stage 3 absent a widely available vaccine or treatment.</p> <p>Highest risk settings remain closed.</p>	Apply public health measures in high risk settings.		Restrictions are the most severe available before widescale business or organizational closure.	Consider declaration of emergency.

COVID-19 Response Framework

Key Risk Factors of Potential Transmission



There are several risk factors that help drive transmission of COVID-19. **Close contact is the highest risk.** Limiting these risks is critical to keeping Ontario open and safe.

Personal and public health measures — such as physical distancing, staying home when ill even with mild symptoms, frequent handwashing and surface cleaning — have significant benefits and have been proven to limit COVID-19 transmission.

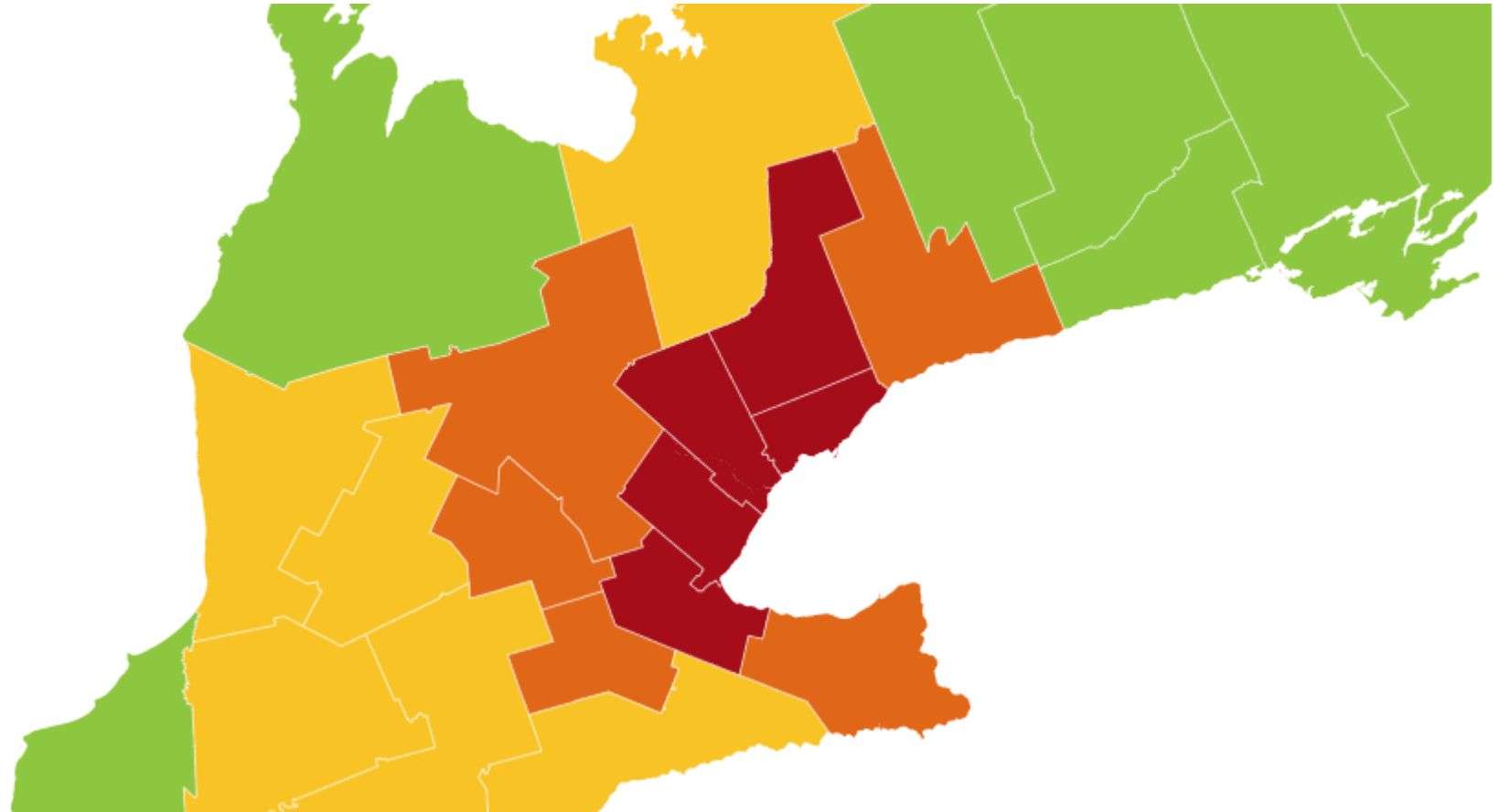
It is critical the people of Ontario understand the risks of gatherings (crowds) in close contact in enclosed/indoor spaces to understand how to mitigate those and make informed choices.

COVID-19 Response Framework

Ontario's COVID-19 restriction levels

Ontario's new framework classes public health regions into five levels, including lockdown

■ Red (Control) ■ Orange (Restrict) ■ Yellow (Protect) ■ Green (Prevent)



Resource for Municipalities and Businesses



Durham Region is in the Orange Zone - Restrict phase of the provincial COVID-19 Response Framework.

We are providing additional guidance on public health measures that will affect Durham Region under the [provincial COVID-19 Response Framework](#).

[Download Durham Region Health Department Restrict Phase \(Intermediate Measures\) Orange Zone Requirements and Frequently Asked Questions.](#)

This information has been compiled by Durham Region Health Department. It is intended to provide guidance to residents and businesses to prepare for safe reopening of our community, subject to direction from the Province of Ontario, and should not be construed as legal advice or to replace specific instructions that may be issued by Durham Region Health Department or the province.



The Durham Economic Task Force is here to help you navigate this crisis and working together to provide resources, tools and business support programs for businesses.

[COVID-19 response for businesses](#)



Health Department Resources

- [Durham.ca/novelcoronavirus](https://durham.ca/novelcoronavirus)
- [Durham.ca/covidcases](https://durham.ca/covidcases) (Data tracker)
- [Durham.ca/reopeningtoolkit](https://durham.ca/reopeningtoolkit)
- [Durham.ca/fluclases](https://durham.ca/fluclases)



Thank you

durham.ca

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